

# NEWS RELEASE

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*For Immediate Release*

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## **MURPHYSBORO MAN INDICTED FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY OFFENSE**

Edward E. McNally, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on December 7, 2005, a federal grand jury sitting in Benton, returned an indictment charging, **KENNETH R. LUNSFORD**, age 43, of Murphysboro, Illinois, with one count of using a computer to knowingly ship child pornography in interstate commerce. The indictment alleges that the child pornography consisted of three video clips which depicted minors engaged in explicit sexual conduct.

**LUNSFORD** was arrested on November 17, 2005, and is being held in the custody of the United States Marshal Service.

Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charges until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. If convicted, **LUNSFORD** faces a minimum of 5 up to 20 years imprisonment, a maximum fine of \$250,000, and up to 3 years of supervised release.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Carbondale Police Department, the Marion Police Department, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, and the Illinois Department of Corrections.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

The United States Attorney's Office, in conjunction with federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities, is actively investigating and prosecuting individuals who produce, distribute, or possess child pornography, or are involved in the exploitation of children. Anyone with information concerning the use of the Internet for the purposes of possessing, producing, or trafficking in child pornography or for child exploitation is encouraged to contact their local police department or the Federal Bureau of Investigation.